

MAIN STREET ONCE WAS BATTLE FIELD

Bad Men of Pioneer Days Used to Fire Across Business Highway

HALL REMINISCES

Defends Arkansas as One of City's Greatest Assets, in His City Club Speech

Numerous incidents in the history of Tulsa, all of them interesting and some highly amusing, were related at the City club luncheon at Hotel Tulsa Saturday noon by J. M. Hall, pioneer citizen. Hall came to Tulsa in 1882, having been the second white man to set foot on the present site.

The only other white man here at that time was operating a canvas boarding house, depending mostly for his patronage on surveyors who were laying out the route of the Frisco railroad. Hall advised.

Commenting on the transportation system of early days, the speaker explained that the Frisco first built to Tulsa. The terminus was here for two years when the line was extended to Red Fork. That remained the terminus for three years. The next extension was to Sapulpa.

About that time it was rumored the Santa Fe, with its terminus at Oklawaha, intended to extend into Tulsa. The Frisco, hearing this rumor, became active and "beat the Santa Fe to it." The only extension made by the Santa Fe was from Oklawaha to Tulsa.

However, Hall pointed out, the Frisco was the only railroad entering Tulsa for 20 years.

Flat Car Prop Failed.

"When the Frisco extended to Red Fork it was necessary to construct a bridge across the Arkansas river. This was a piling bridge and was none too substantial. Shortly after it was finished the Arkansas went on a rampage. The bridge was threatened. That it might be made firmer, the Frisco ran a train of flat cars from one bank to the other. But this didn't save the bridge. It was swept away. Those flat cars are still buried in the bed of the Arkansas as far as I know."

"I remember that a steamboat company operating out of Fort Smith threatened to sue the Frisco for obstructing a navigable stream. The case did not come to trial."

Hall said he had letters in his possession to show that if Tulsa had possessed good water, the Frisco shops would have been located in this city instead of Sapulpa, and this would have been made the division point.

When Hall located in Tulsa and with his brother opened stores in Tulsa and Red Fork under the firm names J. M. Hall & Co., and H. C. Hall & Co., this country had more than its quota of bad men. In those days these two-gun men shot first and talked afterward.

Hall was well acquainted with the Dalton boys.

"I know they were outlaws," he explained. "But it was naturally agreed and understood that we would let them tend to their business if they would allow us to tend to ours."

Fought on Main Street.

Factions or feuds, fights were not uncommon in those days. At times the warring factions would barricade themselves on either side of Main street and shoot at each other until their ammunition was exhausted. Frequently there were a number of casualties. Sometimes, however, no one was killed or injured.

On one occasion a man was killed and nine bad men were held for his murder. The greatest court in those days was located at Fort Smith, and because of the long distance away legal machinery operated slowly.

When it came time for the trial it was discovered that 13 witnesses had been killed. No one was left to testify against the nine and they were necessarily released. Those 13 witnesses all were killed in one spring, Hall stated.

"In those days," he recalled, "it was best for witnesses to mind their own affairs."

Then he related the story of his own narrow escape. A Chinaman had been killed by one of them bad men and his wife seeing the shooting, took away from a small boy the knife with which he was whittling and placed it near the Chin's body to establish a self-defense motive for her husband's deed.

Remark Was Overheard.

The husband was arrested. Hall had witnessed the transfer of the knife and remarked to one of his friends that the man might have difficulty in successfully claiming self-defense because of the number of other citizens who witnessed the woman's act.

News of Hall's remark reached a brother of the murderer. And right back to Hall's ears came the information that this brother would come to Tulsa in a day or two and put him out of the way.

"I suppose he intended to waylay me on my way home some night and shoot carefully," Hall observed. "But a day or two later I learned he had taken suddenly ill. He died within the same week."

While some may condemn the Arkansas river as a polluted and unnecessary stream, Hall commends it as one of Tulsa's greatest assets.

He is unreservedly a booster for the Arkansas.

"This river has been cursed and discussed by almost everyone," he reflected. "But I like the Arkansas—it has been a wonderful asset to Tulsa. Of course it is a polluted stream now, but it was polluted by the hand of man. I can remember when we caught long strings of blue catfish from its depths; I commend it to anyone who wishes beautiful scenery such as may be found along its banks; it has provided thousands of loads of valuable sand for construction work, and without the Arkansas Tulsa would be in an embarrassing predicament in disposing of her sewage."

WOOLWINE IS IN BAD

Los Angeles Commission Asks Grand Jury to Probe Charges Made by Prosecutor's Aide

LOS ANGELES, June 3.—The Los Angeles county civil service commission has recommended that the county grand jury conduct an investigation of charges of immorality preferred against Thomas Lee Woolwine, district attorney, by Miss Ida Wright Jones, formerly an investigator in his office. The grand jury was in session and the commission planned to transmit its recommendations.

Miss Jones was recently discharged by Woolwine with the statement that he had learned she had planned to relate a series of episodes in which she claimed they had had a party, according to her story, for the purpose of discrediting Woolwine politically. He has since announced his candidacy for the democratic nomination for governor.

After the discharge Miss Jones made formal complaint to the civil service commission of Los Angeles county, claiming that a civil service employee, and the action today was based on her complaint and on some undisclosed documents which, the commission said, accompanied it. These were understood to include copies of a hotel register and other evidence.

CUPID IS BUSY THIS MONTH

June Lives Up to Reputation as Brides' Month, Licenses Show

The month of June is running true to form in Tulsa—as the month of brides it is living up to its reputation. It also is causing the marriage license clerk at the courthouse to keep the record book ready for new entries.

Fifteen licenses were issued Saturday, as follows:

Charles F. Hagberg, 23, Clay Center, Kan., and Miss Gladys Robinson, 21, Tulsa; Fred Noah, 25, Bixby, and Miss Dora Lyman, 17, Glenpool; Ogal Whitetree, 22, and Miss Emma La Morris, 22, Wagonette, Okla.; Eugene Booth, 20, and Miss Ruby Peters, 15, Tulsa; Will Meek, 25, and Miss Beatrice Taylor, 19, Tulsa; Corbett Gravit, 27, and Miss Nellie Wells, 19, Tulsa; J. W. Lyman, 21, and Miss Pearl Myers, 18, Jenks; R. P. Schoeffler, 21, and Miss Marvel Leona Moss, 18, Tulsa; Frank Smith, 33, and Miss Fannie Anglin, 37, Tulsa; E. R. Mosby, 25, Okmulgee, and Miss Olive P. Bowes, 25, Tulsa; P. L. Noffsinger, 21, Stockton, Mo., and Miss Mabel F. Conklin, 18, Springfield, Mo.; J. W. Patterson, 23, Chicago, and Miss Della Agee, 25, Sapulpa; Fred Leo Trusler, 19, and Miss Velma Coppedge, 19, Bixby; W. W. Pickett, 50, and Mrs. Annie Robinson, 40, Tulsa; J. H. Potts, 65, and Mrs. Elizabeth Webb, 54, Tulsa.

Playwright Sees Business Man.

BALTIMORE, Md., June 3.—George Broadhurst, 56, playwright and manager, today brought suit for \$50,000 against John Burns Symon, member of the firm of Symon brothers of San Francisco for an alleged attack on May 26 on the steamship Columbia. Symon, Broadhurst alleged, attacked him without cause, injuring him so that his life was in danger.

Would Stop Texas Fever.

TOPEKA, Kan., June 3.—A preliminary campaign against any possible outbreak of Texas fever among cattle in Kansas is being waged throughout Kansas. Dr. H. M. Graef, chief inspector of the United States bureau of animal industry, announced here today.

May Call International Probe.

WASHINGTON, June 3.—The United States is ready to join with Great Britain in an investigation of reported deportations of Christian missionaries in Anatolia and alleged atrocities in the near east, the state department announced this afternoon.

French Adonis' Will Star in Special Play Where Villain Hasn't Chances.

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PLAN NEW MOVE TO CURB PRICES

Retail Coal Dealers Are Summoned to Conference in Capital

WASHINGTON, June 3.—Another step in its efforts to prevent coal profiteers from taking advantage of the present strike situation to gouge the public was taken by the administration today.

Following closely on the heels of the fixation of coal prices at the mines this week, it was announced today that a number of leading retail coal dealers of the country have been requested to come to Washington for a conference with Secretary of Commerce Hoover at which efforts will be made toward stabilization of retail prices.

The retailers' conference will be followed later in the week by one with the wholesalers and jobbers. In each instance, Hoover will endeavor to fix a fair price by "mutual agreement."

If Hoover's efforts with the retailers and wholesalers are successful, as were those with the mine operators, the prices of bituminous coal will be fixed all along the line—*from producer to consumer.*

The invitations were addressed to members of the National Retail Coal Merchants' association, of which Homer D. Jones of Chicago is president. It is understood Jones will be here Monday and accompanied by a score of other members of the association.

HOLD DOUBLE FUNERAL

Service For Boys Drowned Friday to Be Conducted at Lowell School at 2 O'clock Monday

Double funeral services for Harvey Parish, 16, and Walter Doyle, 18, are to be held in the auditorium of the Lowell schoolhouse on North Peoria at 3 o'clock Monday afternoon, according to an announcement made Saturday by relatives of the two young men.

Parish and Doyle drowned in Bird creek, about a mile below the falls two miles from Sperry and nine miles north of Tulsa, Friday afternoon. About 15 pupils from the seventh and eighth grades of Lowell school left for Bird creek early Friday morning to spend the day picnicking. The accident abruptly ceased when the tragedy occurred.

Della Arnold, Violet Whitney, Lila Langston and Neva David, girl pupils whose ages range from 14 to 16, were rescued from the water. All are virtually recovered from their severe fright and physical exertion.

Noah Langston, 22, driver of the truck in which the picnickers made the trip, and who took a leading part in the rescue of these girls, suffered no ill effects from his experience. Langston barely escaped with his own life when the girls, wild with fright, frantically clung to him as he brought them to shallow water.

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